

Malnesbury

Rural

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1918-1919.

April 26th. 1919.

During the year 22 cases were notified. They were as follows:-

To: *General* 20 cases.

The CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS of the RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL of
MALNESBURY.

Gentlemen, On resigning my temporary Commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps in August 1918. Mr. R. M. Moore rejoined the Army and you consented that I should act as your Deputy Medical Officer of Health until his return.

I beg to present my annual report for the year ending December 31st. 1918.

During the year 22 cases were notified. They were as follows:-

HOUSING INSPECTION.

Twenty seven houses were inspected during 1918. One house was condemned as being unfit for habitation. The remaining 26 were put in a satisfactory condition.

15 Notices were served upon the Public Health Act 1875 requesting the persons concerned to put these premises in a sanitary condition. These notices were for the year ending 31st. December 1918.

Only two new cottages have been built in the Rural District during the year and these cottages replaced old ones.

During the year I took the necessary steps to open the Isolation Hospital. This entailed considerable difficulty and was a very costly affair. The difficulty in obtaining a nurse and also in the difficulty of providing food for the inmates under the

County system. However I managed to procure a nurse from Bristol and I provided the necessary to maintain the catering for the

patients. The Isolation Hospital was opened on August 10th. Three

more cases were admitted on August 20th. Altogether 27 cases.

were treated at the Hospital. 15 cases from Malnesbury, 1 from *Weymouth* and 1 from *Weymouth*. The other 2 cases reported were isolated and treated in their own homes.

The Hospital was closed on December 15th.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ending 31st December 1918.

April 26th. 1919.

During the year 22 cases were notified. They were as follows; -

To, Scarlet Fever 20 cases.

The CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS of the RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL of

MALMESBURY%

Gentlemen, On resigning my temporary Commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps in August 1918. Mr. R. M. Moore rejoined the Army and you consented that I should act as your Deputy Medical Officer of Health until his return.

I beg to present my annual report for the year ending December 31st. 1918.

SCARLET FEVER Of the 20 cases two isolated cases occurred at

Naunton and Cheltenham. HOUSING INSPECTION. were all notified from

Sherston and Sopworth. The first case was notified on June 8th. at Twenty seven houses were inspected during 1918. One house was condemned as being unfit for habitation. The remaining 26 were put in a satisfactory condition.

15 Notices were served upon the Public Health Act 1875 requesting the persons concerned to put their premises in a sanitary condition. These notices were complied with.

Only two new cottages have been built in the Rural District during the year and these cottages replaced old ones.

cases in their own houses I took the necessary steps to open the Isolation Hospital. This entailed considerable difficulty and much trouble owing to the difficulty in obtaining a nurse and also to the difficulty of providing food for the inmates under the

Coupon system. However I managed to procure a nurse from Bristol and I persuaded the caretaker to undertake the catering for the patients. The Isolation Hospital was opened on August 19th. Three more cases were admitted on August 20th. Altogether 17 cases,

were treated at the Hospital. 15 came from Sherston. 1 from Sopworth and 1 from Cheltenham. The other 3 cases reported were isolated and treated in their own houses.

The Hospital was closed on December 11th.

April 26th. 1918.

To,

The CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS of the RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL of

MALMESBURY

Gentlemen, On resigning my temporary Commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps in August 1918. Mr. R. W. Moore rejoined the Army and you commented that I should act as your Deputy Medical Officer of Health until his return.

I beg to present my annual report for the year ending December

31st. 1918.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

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Wellcome Library

Only two new cottages have been built in the Rural District during the year and these cottages replaced old ones.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACTS. 1889-1899.

During the year 22 cases were notified. They were as follows; -

Scarlet Fever 20 cases.

During 1918, 45 cases were notified.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis 1 case

They were distributed in the following parishes.

Erysipelas 1 case.

The case of Cerebro Meningitis occurred in a soldier on leave at

Brinkworth and was not contracted in the District. The Military

Authorities were communicated with by telephone and the case was removed

by them to a Military Hospital on the same day that the

Notification was received. The house was thoroughly disinfected

all bedding destroyed and no further cases arose.

SCARLET FEVER Of the 20 cases two isolated cases occurred at

Dauntsey and Chelworth. The other 18 were all notified from

Sherston and Sopworth. The first case was notified on June 8th. at a house in Sopworth.

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining nurses arrangements were made to isolate this case in a house at Sherston.

The next case occurred at Sherston on June 30th and was isolated at home.

On August 17th. two cases were reported to me at Sherston and I visited Sherston that day. It was not possible to isolate the cases in their own homes so I took the necessary steps to open the Isolation Hospital. This entailed considerable difficulty and much trouble owing to the difficulty in obtaining a nurse and also to the difficulty of providing food for the inmates under the

Coupon system. However I managed to procure a nurse from Bristol and I persuaded the caretaker to undertake the catering for the patients. The Isolation Hospital was opened on August 19th. Three more cases were admitted on August 20th. Altogether 17 cases,

were treated at the Hospital. 15 came from Sherston. 1 from Sopworth and 1 from Chelworth. The other 3 cases reported were isolated and treated in their own homes,

The Hospital was closed on December 11th.

During the year 22 cases were notified. They were as follows:-

Scarlet Fever 20 cases.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis 1 case

Rhyphoid 1 case.

The case of Cerebro Meningitis occurred in a soldier on leave at

Brinkworth and was not contracted in the District. The Military

Authorities were communicated with by telephone and the case was removed

by them to a Military Hospital on the same day that the

Notification was received. The house was thoroughly disinfected

all bedding destroyed and no further cases arose.

SCARLET FEVER Of the 20 cases two isolated cases occurred at

Dunsmuir and Chelworth. The other 18 were all notified from

Sherton and Sopworth. The first case was notified on June 28th at

a house in Sopworth.

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining nurse arrangements were

made to isolate this case in house at Sherton.

The next case occurred at Sherton on June 30th and was isolated at

home.

On August 17th, two cases were reported to me at Sherton and I

visited Sherton that day. It was not possible to isolate the

cases in their own homes so I took the necessary steps to open the

Isolation Hospital. This entailed considerable difficulty and much

trouble owing to the difficulty in obtaining a nurse and also to

the difficulty of providing food for the inmates under the

Coupon system. However I managed to procure a nurse from Bristol

and I persuaded the caretaker to undertake the catering for the

patients. The Isolation Hospital was opened on August 17th. Three

more cases were admitted on August 20th. Altogether 17 cases

were treated at the Hospital. 15 came from Sherton. 1 from

Sopworth and 1 from Chelworth. The other 3 cases reported were

isolated and treated in their own homes.

The Hospital was closed on December 11th.

MEASLES AND GERMAN MEASLES REGULATIONS 1915. Influenza during the

year. The first wave occurred in the Summer months and was not of a serious or severe nature. The second wave started in this district during 1918. 45 cases were notified.

They were distributed in the following parishes.

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Brinkworth | 18 |
| Sherston | 6 |
| Dauntsey | 5 |
| Charlton | 5 |
| Minety | 4 |
| Brokenborough | 2 |
| Lea and Garadon | 2 |
| Hullavington | 1 |
| Little Somerford | 1 |
| Easton Grey | 1 |

The first cases occurred at Minety at the end of March and beginning of April. The schools were closed for a time and the disease only appeared in 4 families.

From Minety the infection spread by direct contact to Brinkworth and cases occurred here from April 2nd. until June 9th. The school attendance was seriously effected and schools were closed from April 25th. for several weeks.

The cases in other parts of your district call for no comment.

During the year one death was notified caused by measles. Although a very infectious disease it became absolutely necessary to allow the district nurses to attend the Influenza patients as otherwise they would have often been left entirely unattended.

The clinical manifestations of the epidemic were chiefly respiratory and the fatal cases may be almost entirely ascribed to pneumonia or bronchitis.

Schools in most of the villages had to be closed.

The number of deaths in the Rural District from Influenza and Influenza Pneumonia was 31.

Twenty of these deaths occurred in the month of November.

MEASLES AND GERMAN MEASLES REGULATIONS 1915.

During 1918, 45 cases were notified. They were distributed in the following parishes.

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Brinkworth | 18 |
| Sherton | 6 |
| Danby | 5 |
| Charlton | 5 |
| Minety | 4 |
| Brokenborough | 2 |
| Lee and Garston | 2 |
| Hullington | 1 |
| Little Somerford | 1 |
| Easton Grey | 1 |

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cases occurred here from April 2nd, until June 25th. The school attendance was seriously effected and schools were closed from April 25th for several weeks.

The cases in other parts of your district call for no comment. During the year one death was notified caused by measles.

The difficulty of providing food for the patients under the German system, however, I have to report a case from the hospital. The isolation hospital was opened on August 1st, 1918, and I purchased the equipment for the hospital. The patients were admitted on August 20th. Measles was more common at the hospital. It was from the hospital that the infection spread to the other 4 cases reported.

The hospital was closed in November 1918.

INFLUENZA%

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were two definite waves of Influenza during the year. The first wave occurred in the Summer months and was not of a serious or severe nature. The second wave started in this district about the first week in October and reached its maximum about the third week of November. It was over about the 10th of December although a few cases occurred up to the end of the year. The first cases occurred in Little Somerford and quickly spread to all the neighbouring villages of the Rural District of Malmesbury. The vigorous adult population seemed to be the chosen sufferers, though children were frequently attacked. Undoubtedly overcrowding, fatigue lack of ventilation and dirt and insufficient food are the chief causes of spreading the disease. In many cottages I regret to say, the windows do not open and if they do open they only do so from the bottom. Top ventilation is practically unknown. Fire places are often non-existent or even blocked up. The public show great ignorance in the matter of fresh air and pure water. It was no uncommon experience to find a parent refusing absolutely to give a child a drink of cold water on the ground that it was harmful and in the matter of fresh air it was also frequently obvious that the window was opened for the doctor's visit and thereafter kept closed. The nursing of the patients was a great difficulty whole families being often ill at a time the least ill having to get up to wait upon the others. Too much praise cannot be given to the District Nurses who did not spare themselves to fight the malady in this unprecedented epidemic. Although a very infectious disease it became absolutely necessary to allow the district nurses to attend the Influenza patients as otherwise they would have often been left entirely unattended.

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Twenty of these deaths occurred in the month of November.

TUBERCULOSIS.

(1) PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Twelve cases were notified from the following parishes

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Lea | 2 |
| Minety | 2 |
| Hankerton | 2 |
| Brinkworth | 2 |
| Hullavington | 1 |
| Cradwell | 1 |
| Charlton | 1 |
| Luckington | 1 |

Eight of these cases received sanatorium treatment.

There were 4 deaths registered from this disease during the year.

(2) OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Four cases were notified at Charlton, Hullavington Norton and St. Paul Without.

One of these cases died.

(1) TUESDAY

Twelve cases were notified from the following parties

| | |
|----|------|
| 1 | Mr |
| 2 | Miss |
| 3 | Mr |
| 4 | Mr |
| 5 | Mr |
| 6 | Mr |
| 7 | Mr |
| 8 | Mr |
| 9 | Mr |
| 10 | Mr |
| 11 | Mr |
| 12 | Mr |

(2) OTHER CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

Four cases were notified at Charlton, Walsingham

Worthing and St. Paul's.

One at St. Paul's.

VITAL STATISTICS

Apart from this outbreak at Sherston the low number of infectious diseases notified is very satisfactory.

In the year 1918 there were 127 births 62 were males and 65 females six illegitimate children are included in these births.

No cases of diphtheria, enteric fever or small pox were notified. The birth rate works out at 13.1 per 1000. Last year it was 12.1.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital was opened from August 19th to December 11th. in connection with the scarlet fever outbreak at Sherston, 121 deaths were registered

NURSING ASSOCIATION. 62 males and 59 females.

Early in the year a new association was started for the combined parishes of Crudwell (with Eastcourt and Chelworth) Hankerton and Minety.

A scheme is on foot for an association which will include Great Somerford and Startley in your area.

I beg to remain Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT . C . PITT .

Deputy M.O.H.

THURSDAY
Apart from this outbreak at Sheraton the low number of infectious diseases notified is very satisfactory.

No cases of diphtheria, enteric fever or small pox were notified.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital was opened from August 15th to December 15th, in connection with the scarlet fever outbreak at Sheraton.

NURSING ASSOCIATION.

Early in the year a new association was started for the combined parishes of Cuswold (with Eastcourt and Chisworth) Hamerton and

Minster.

A scheme is on foot for an association which will include Great Somerford and Sturley in your area.

(2) OTHER TOWN OF TERNING IS.

That the present cases were notified at Charlton, Hamerton

and Norton and St. Paul's.

One of these cases died.

The other cases were notified at Charlton, Hamerton and Norton.

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VITAL STATISTICS

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The Birth rate works out at 13.1 per 1000. Last year it was 12.1.

DEATHS.

121 deaths were registered

62 males and 59 females.

Death rate 12.3.

INFANT MORTALITY.

10 infant deaths under one year of age were recorded giving an
infantile mortality rate of 1.1 per 1000.

I beg to remain Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT . C . PITT .

Deputy M.O.H.

VITAL STATISTICS

Apart from this outbreak at Sharnon the low number of infectious diseases notified is very satisfactory.
In the year 1918 there were 127 births 59 were males and 68 females six illegitimate children are included in these births.
The Birth rate works out at 13.1 per 1000. Last year it was 12.1.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

DEATHS. Isolation Hospital was opened from August 1918 to December 1918. In connection with the scarlet fever outbreak at Sharnon, 121 deaths were registered

HURSTING ASSOCIATION. 62 males and 59 females.

Early in the year a new Death rate 12.3. is noted for the deaths of children (with scarlet fever and Cholera) Sharnon and

INFANT MORTALITY.

10 infant deaths under one year of age were recorded giving an infantile mortality rate of 1.1 per 1000.

I beg to remain Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT . C . PITT .

Deputy M.O.H.